whether or not all of the component activities are federally assisted.

(k) *Definition of initiation of negotiations.* For purposes of providing the appropriate notices and determining the formula for computing a replacement housing payment under the URA to a tenant displaced from a dwelling as a direct result of demolition or private owner acquisition, the term ''initiation of negotiations'' means HUD approval of the demolition or disposition under this part.

[60 FR 3717, Jan. 18, 1995]

§ 970.6 Specific criteria for HUD approval of demolition requests.

In addition to other applicable requirements of this part, HUD will not approve an application for demolition unless HUD determines that one of the following criteria is met:

(a) In the case of demolition of all or a portion of a project, the project, or portion of the project, is obsolete as to physical condition, location, or other factors, making it unusable for housing purposes *and* no reasonable program of modifications, is feasible to return the project or portion of the project to useful life. The Department generally shall not consider a program of modifications to be reasonable if the costs of such program exceed 90 percent of total development cost (TDC). Major problems indicative of obsolescence are—

(1) As to physical condition: Structural deficiencies (e.g. settlement of earth below the building caused by inadequate structural fills, faulty structural design, or settlement of floors), substantial deterioration (e.g., severe termite damage or damage caused by extreme weather conditions), or other design or site problems (*e.g.*, severe erosion or flooding);

(2) As to location: physical deterioration of the neighborhood; change from residential to industrial or commercial development; or environmental conditions as determined by HUD environmental review in accord with part 50 of this title, which jeopardize the suitability of the site or a portion of the site and its housing structures for residential use;

(3) Other factors which have seriously affected the marketability, use-fulness, or management of the property.

(b) In the case of demolition of only a portion of a project, the demolition will help to assure the useful life of the remaining portion of the project (*e.g.*, to reduce project density to permit better access by emergency, fire, or rescue services).

[60 FR 3719, Jan. 18, 1995]

§ 970.7 Specific criteria for HUD approval of disposition requests.

(a) In addition to other applicable requirements of this part, HUD will not approve a request for disposition unless HUD determines that retention is not in the best interests of the tenants and the PHA because at least one of the following criteria is met:

(1) Developmental changes is the area surrounding the project (e.g., density, or industrial or commercial development) adversely affect the health or safety of the tenants or the feasible operation of the project by the PHA.

(2) Disposition will allow the acquisition, development, or rehabilitation of other properties that will be more efficiently or effectively operated as lower income housing projects, and that will preserve the total amount of lower income housing stock available to the community. A PHA must be able to demonstrate to the satisfaction of HUD that the additional units are being provided in connection with the disposition of the property.

(3) There are other factors justifying disposition that HUD determines are consistent with the best interests of the tenants and the PHA and that are not inconsistent with other provisions of the Act. As an example, if the property meets any of the criteria for demolition under § 970.6, it may be disposed of under this criterion (§ 970.7(a)(3)), subject to conditions that HUD may impose (e.g., demolition to follow disposition in order to assure abatement of a threat to safety or health).

(b) In the case of disposition of property other than dwelling units, (1) the property is determined by HUD to be excess to the needs of the project (after EIOP), or (2) the disposition of the property is incidental to, or does not